

## Claims

- [c1] A method for operating a temperature controlled device, said method comprising the steps of:  
detecting a human presence status; and  
controlling a temperature of the temperature controlled device based upon the detected status.
- [c2] A method according to Claim 1 wherein said step of detecting a human presence status comprises the step of detecting a human presence status utilizing at least one of a motion detector, an infrared sensor, and a vibration sensor.
- [c3] A method according to Claim 1 wherein said step of detecting a human presence status comprises the step of detecting a human presence utilizing a motion detector.
- [c4] A method according to Claim 1 wherein said step of detecting a human presence status comprises the step of detecting a human presence status in an area proximate to the temperature controlled device.
- [c5] A method according to Claim 1 wherein said step of detecting a human presence comprises the step of detecting a human presence in an area distant to the temperature controlled device.
- [c6] A method according to Claim 1 wherein said step of controlling a temperature comprises the steps of:  
specifying a first temperature of the temperature controlled device comprising a cooling device when the detected status is human present; and  
specifying a second temperature of the temperature controlled device when the detected status is human absent, the second temperature higher than the first temperature.
- [c7] A method according to Claim 1 wherein said step of controlling a temperature comprises the steps of:  
specifying a first temperature of the temperature controlled device comprising a cooling device when the detected status is human present; and

specifying a second temperature of the temperature controlled device after detecting a human absent status for a predetermined period of time, the second temperature higher than the first temperature.

- [c8] A method according to Claim 1 wherein said step of controlling a temperature comprises the step of turning off the temperature controlled device when the detected status is human absent.
- [c9] A method according to Claim 1 wherein said step of controlling a temperature comprises the step of turning off the temperature controlled device after detecting a human absent status for a predetermined period of time.
- [c10] A method according to Claim 1 wherein said step of controlling a temperature comprises the steps of:  
specifying a temperature of the temperature controlled device when the detected status is human present; and  
turning off the temperature controlled device when the detected status is human absent.
- [c11] A method according to Claim 1 wherein said step of controlling a temperature comprises the steps of:  
specifying a temperature of the temperature controlled device when the detected status is human present; and  
turning off the temperature controlled device after detecting a human absent status for a predetermined period of time.
- [c12] A method according to Claim 1 wherein said step of controlling a temperature comprises the steps of:  
specifying a first temperature of the temperature controlled device comprising a heating device when the detected status is human present; and  
specifying a second temperature of the temperature controlled device when the detected status is human absent, the second temperature lower than the first temperature.
- [c13] A method according to Claim 1 wherein said step of controlling a temperature comprises the steps of:

specifying a first temperature of the temperature controlled device comprising a heating device when the detected status is human present; and turning off the temperature controlled device after detecting a human absent status for a predetermined period of time.

- [c14] A method for fabricating a temperature controlled device, said method comprising:  
providing a human presence detector; and  
coupling the human presence detector to the temperature controlled device such that the temperature controlled device is controlled based on a human presence status.
- [c15] A method according to Claim 14 wherein said step of providing a human presence detector comprises the step of providing at least one of a motion detector, an infrared sensor, and a vibration sensor.
- [c16] A method according to Claim 14 wherein said step of coupling the human presence detector comprises coupling the human presence detector to the temperature controlled device comprising a cooling device.
- [c17] A method according to Claim 14 wherein said step of coupling the human presence detector comprises coupling the human presence detector to the temperature controlled device comprising a heating device.
- [c18] A method for fabricating a control unit for a temperature controlled device, said method comprising the steps of:  
providing a control unit; and  
coupling a human detector to the control unit such that the control unit controls the temperature controlled device based on a human presence status.
- [c19] A control unit for control of a temperature controlled device, said control unit comprising a human detector.
- [c20] A control unit according to Claim 19 wherein said human detector comprises at least one of a motion detector, an infrared sensor, and a vibration sensor.
- [c21] A control unit according to Claim 19 wherein said control unit configured to

control the temperature controlled device based on a human presence status.

- [c22] A control unit according to Claim 21 wherein said control unit further configured to:
- control the temperature controlled device at a first temperature when said human detector detects a human present status; and
- control the temperature controlled device at a second temperature when said human detector detects a human absent status.
- [c23] A control unit according to Claim 22 wherein said second temperature higher than said first temperature.
- [c24] A control unit according to Claim 22 wherein said second temperature lower than said first temperature.
- [c25] A control unit according to Claim 19 wherein said detector configured to detect a human presence status in an area proximate said control unit.
- [c26] A control unit according to Claim 19 wherein said detector configured to detect a human presence status in an area distant said control unit.
- [c27] A control unit according to Claim 21 wherein said control unit further configured to:
- control the temperature controlled device at a first temperature when said human detector detects a human present status; and
- control the temperature controlled device at a second temperature after said human detector detects a human absent status for a predetermined period of time.
- [c28] A control unit according to Claim 21 wherein said control unit further configured to:
- control the temperature controlled device at a first temperature when said human detector detects a human present status; and
- turn off the temperature controlled device when said human detector detects a human absent status.
- [c29] A control unit according to Claim 21 wherein said control unit further

configured to:

control the temperature controlled device at a first temperature when said human detector detects a human present status; and

turn off the temperature controlled device after said human detector detects a human absent status for a predetermined period of time.